

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

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R 111305Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6848

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, AR, BR

SUBJ: SIXTH MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE CUENCA

DEL PLATA BASIN

1. SIXTH MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS OF CUENCA DEL PLATA NATIONS (ARGENTINA, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, PARAGUAY AND URUGUAY) OPENED ON MONDAY, JUNE 10, IN BUENOS AIRES, FOLLOWING SEVERAL POSTPONEMENTS AND MUCH MANEUVERING, SQUABBLING AND CONFUSION ON THE ISSUE OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS. PRESIDENT PERON MADE INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

2. MAJOR ISSUE ON PUBLIC AGENDA WILL BE CREATION OF FUND FOR PROJECTS, AS WAS CASE AT LAST MEETING. THIS ISSUE SO FAR HAS HELD UP ANY SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING SPECIFIC PROJECTS. ARGENTINES CLAIM THAT PRINCIPAL OBSTACLE TO DECISION ON FUND WAS AND REMAINS BRAZILIAN INTRANSIGENCE. IT IS SAID THAT BRAZILIANS WANT NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO REMAIN UNDER CONTROL OF INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTORS, OR,WHAT AMOUNTS TO THE SAME THING, ARE NOT SURE THEY WANT AN EFFECTIVE ORGANZIATION YET.

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3. THOUGH PRESS CONSISTENTLY REPORTS THAT ARGENTINA WILL

USE THE MEETING TO AID THEIR MUCH DISCUSSED DEFERENCES
WITH BRAZIL ON ISSUE OF CONSULTATION ON USE OF COMMON
RESOURCES (I.E., THE PARANA RIVER), IT SEEMS UNLIKELY
GOA WILL CHOOSE THIS FORUM TO PRESS THIS ISSUE, SINCE ALL
INDICATIONS ARE THAT HERE, UNLIKE UN AND THIRD WORLD FORUMS,
GOA WOULD FIND ITSELF IN MINORITY POSITION. THEY HAVE NOT DIS-
CUSSED IT IN THIS CONTEXT IN THE PAST AND IF GOA-GOBR TRULY
WANT TO FIND SOLUTION TO DISPUTE AND LAY BASIS FOR COOPERATION,
THE ISSUE WILL MORE LIKELY BE DISCUSSED AND IF POSSIBLE RE-
SOLVED IN BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS, POSSIBLY AT THE PRESIDENTIAL
LEVEL. PROGRESS IN MAKING THE CUENCA COMMISSION AND EFFECTIVE
COORDINATIVE AND DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT DEPENDS TO A GREAT
EXTENT ON THE RESOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM. RECENT SIGNALS,
INCLUDING PERONS INITIATIVE IN ADDRESSING THE FONMINS, THE BOBR
FONMINS REPORTED POSITIVE REMARKS ABOUT FUTURE OF GOBR/GOA
RELATIONS, AND NEWS FROM BRAZIL THAT THE GOBR IS CONSIDERING
ARGENTINE PARTICIPATION IN SOME WAY IN THE ITAIPU PROJECT
MAY BE INDICATIONS OF WILLINGNESS TO COMPROMISE ON BOTH SIDES.
CURRENT MEETING MAY GIVE SOME INDICATIONS AS TO HOW FAR ARGENTINA
AND BRAZIL ARE CURRENTLY WILLING TO GO IN RESOLVING THIS
PROBLEM. DECON 6/10/75.

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